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Human Rights Developments

Chile: President **Pinochet** announced on 3 April that he **is studying** the possibility of granting amnesty to all persons convicted by military courts. **He** also announced that the sentences of two Air Force officers convicted in 1974 of plotting against the government have been commuted to exile and that they will be leaving for Europe soon. Their exile means that the government has released all of the high-visibility prisoners being held for political crimes. If **Pinochet** follows through with the mass release of remaining political prisoners, the issue will be virtually resolved. At least one international human rights organization is prepared to announce **that** Chile has made real progress on the **human** rights issue.

In other developments, Christian **Democratic Party** ideologue **Jaime Castillo** returned to Chile as expected after 20 months in exile. Meanwhile the Chilean Government probably will agree to expel Michael **Townley**, who has been questioned in Santiago about the assassination of former Ambassador **Letelier**. **Townley** will probably arrive in the United States soon to undergo further **interrogation**.

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